

25X1

1. RESTRICTED HANDLING MESSAGES MUST BE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
 2. DO NOT EXCEED 69 TYPEWRITTEN CHARACTERS PER LINE, INCLUDING SPACES.

Approved For Release 2004/12/02 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000600100048-9

ORIG: GACarver, Jr.

UNIT: DCI/SAVA

EXT: [REDACTED]
DATE: 14Jan71

RESTRICTED HANDLING

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

S E C R E T

Copy _____ of _____

Bar Blom

(CLASSIFICATION)

(DATE AND TIME FILED)

CITE HEADQUARTERS

115

TO

[REDACTED]

REFS: A. HEADQUARTERS 070

[REDACTED]

C. SAIGON 298

[REDACTED]

1. REFS B, C AND D WERE MOST TIMELY AND HELPFUL. THEY WERE PACKAGED INTO AN EYES ONLY MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PACKARD WHICH WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED. MANY THANKS. [REDACTED] THESE REFS -- [REDACTED] - COMMENTED ON THE ROUTE 4 CLEARING OPERATION NOW UNDERWAY.)

2. ABOVE EXCHANGE, HOWEVER, POINTS UP A PROBLEM NOT EASY TO GET HOLD OF BUT ONE LIKELY TO BE WITH US FOR SOME TIME. AS YOU WELL KNOW, ARVN (OR FOR THAT MATTER FARK) UNLIKELY TO GIN UP MAJOR OPERATIONS, ESPECIALLY JOINT ARVN-FARK VENTURES.

XXXXXX
RELEASING OFFICER

S E C R E T

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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THIS FORM FOR USE BY AUTHORIZED RESTRICTED HANDLING MESSAGE USERS ONLY!

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PAGE TWO

TO

WITHOUT ASSURING THEMSELVES OF AT LEAST STANDBY US SUPPORT. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH SUPPORT, HOWEVER, ARE USUALLY ~~XX~~ LAID ON AND APPROVED VIA VERY CLOSE HOLD, BACK CHANNEL DISCOURSE BETWEEN MACV, CINCPAC, SECDEF AND WHITE HOUSE.

3. OUR PROBLEM DERIVES FROM FACT THAT FOR REASONS BEYOND OUR CONTROL, ARRANGEMENTS HERE FOR KEEPING [] APPRISED 25X1 OF SUCH PLANS OR APPROVALS ARE HAPHAZARD, UNCERTAIN AND NOT ALWAYS RELIABLE. THUS WE RUN THE CONTINUING RISK THAT [] IN ITS PUBLICATIONS WILL DRAW ON [] OR SAIGON 25X125X1 DISSEMS, ~~XXXX~~ SENT VIA NORMAL REPORTS CHANNELS, IN WAYS THAT LEAD IT TO SAY THINGS IN PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF, THAT DO LITTLE TO ENHANCE [] IMAGE IN THE 25X1 EYES OF THESE PUBLICATIONS VERY HIGH-LEVEL RECIPIENTS, E.G., ITEMS BASED ON SECOND-HAND STATION REPORTS ABOUT POSSIBLY IMPENDING OPERATIONS THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS IN FACT PERSONALLY

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TO

VETTED AND APPROVED.

4. THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO ARISE IF WSAG,
ON WHICH [] IS REPRESENTED, MET REGULARLY, BUT IN RECENT
WEEKS WSAG HAS NOT CONVENED. THIS LEAVES [] WEEKLY
SESSIONS WITH LAIRD AND PACKARD AS OUR BEST CONTINUING BACK-
STOP, BUT THESE FREE FORM DISCUSSIONS WHOSE AGENDA IS SET
LARGELY BY SECDEF ARE NOT IDEAL VEHICLE FOR THIS PURPOSE.
TO DATE, SECDEF HAS ALWAYS BEEN FORTHCOMING IN RESPONSE TO
DIRECT QUESTIONS, BUT WE DO NOT ALWAYS KNOW WHAT QUESTIONS
TO ASK.

5. FVS 24,345 RELAYED BY SAIGON 24580 (IN 243805) IS MOST
RECENT EXAMPLE OF THE KIND OF REPORT THAT, UNAMPLIFIED,
CAUSES US PROBLEMS. DOES IT OR DOES IT NOT MEAN THAT SCHEDULED
15 JANUARY KICKOFF DATE FOR [] OPERATION HAS BEEN SLIPPED?
(PLEASE CLARIFY THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.) IT WOULD BE MOST

COORDINATING OFFICERS

~~EXX~~

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CITE HEADQUARTERS

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25X1 HELPFUL IF SAIGON AND [REDACTED] COULD AMPLIFY DISSEMS OF
THIS NATURE BY ~~SIXXVXX~~ SIMULTANEOUS COMMENT IN COMMAND
CHANNEL (OR, IF SENSITIVITY SO DICTATES, THIS CHANNEL) PUTTING
REPORT IN PERSPECTIVE IN LIGHT OF OTHER KNOWLEDGE FORMALLY
OR INFORMALLY GLEANED OR TELLING US THAT YOU HAVE NO FURTHER
25X1 LIGHT TO SHED. IT WOULD ALSO HELP IF [REDACTED] COULD KEEP US
CURRENT BY ADDING HIS COMMENTS TO SUCH DISSEMS FROM CINCPAC
WHEN FEASIBLE OR APPROPRIATE.

25X1 6. [REDACTED] DOES NOT EXPECT TO BE MADE PRIVY TO ALL
25X1 DETAILS OF SENSITIVE OPERATIONAL PLANNING. [REDACTED]
25X1 DO, HOWEVER, NEED TO BE ABLE TO KEEP OUR [REDACTED] COLLEAGUES
FROM INADVERTANTLY CLIMBING OUT ON ~~KM~~ LIMBS IN THEIR PUBLICA-
25X1 TIONS IN WAYS THAT MAKE [REDACTED] LOOK FOOLISH.

END OF MESSAGE

25X1

William E. Nelson, C/FE

RELEASING OFFICER

C/

SECRET

25X1

George A. Carver, Jr.
SAVA

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER